A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Preparations at Morristown, N. J., for the Coming Fourth of July.

REVOLUTIONARY REMINISCENCES.

Fortunes and Vicissitudes of the Continental Army.

A HISTORIC SPOT.

MORRISTOWN, N. J., June 16, 1876. A grand celebration, of an exceedingly novel and in-creating character, is to be held here upon the coming Pourth of July, The Mayor of Morristown, the Com on Council and the different officers of the county will take part in it, and every trade and industrial in terest of the city will be represented. The most elabwrate preparations are being made to render it a success.

rote a small portion of their yearly income in appro-priately celebrating this most important of our national ays, for, by so doing, they not only commemorate a grand epoch of American history, but they also pay a atting tribute to the brave and good who founded pristown and who played a most important part in

the great struggle for independence.

One familiar with the "Field Book of the Revolution," as he wanders about these beautiful hills finds at almost every point something to remind him of a bygone cenwhich everywhere claim his attention he cannot help but feel that he is standing upon hallowed ground.

There are but few places in the State of New Jerse; where during the dark hours of colonial history, individual heroism was more conspicuous, for it was here, in the year 1775, that almost all the male inhabitants who were old enough to shoulder a musket formed themselves into a body of "minute men," and, arged on by their loyal and devoted families, for warded a communication to General Washington that they were ready to march to the point where their ser vices were most required. For this noble and patriotic action the Provincial Congress returned them a vote of

It was here, too, that in the year 1776 were reared those mills and towers which supplied the Continental Army with powder and shot; and it was from this hisoric spot that the forces at Springfield and Trenton frew their ammunition and supplies that won for them sion of brilliant victories. Hence this position, so important to the forces under Washington it bition of the British to attack; but so snoredly and systematically was it guarded that the snemy were never able to capture it.

General George Washington arrived at Morristown on January 7, 1776, and took up his winter quarters at then known as the Arnold Tavern. The quaint old building, though slightly altered, is still sanding. I can see it as I write, just over there on the rest side of the Green. Its rooms, which have sheltered so many illustrious guests, have all been transformed into offices and stores, but the general outline of its external architecture is to-day pretty nearly the ame as it was a hundred years ago.

From this point, on December 20, 1776, Washington wrote to Congress, stating that he had directed three regiments to halt at Morristown, where he understood about 800 militia were gathered, in order to restore onfidence among the people and to encourage them, as far as possible, to completely "cover their country." These regiments were for the most part composed of Eastern men, and numbered in all about 520 souls. General Maxwell, of New Jersey, commanded the it in charge of the militia. He was ordered to "cover e retreat of Washington," but while doing so the memy, under General Leslie, poured such a railing fire in upon him that he was compelled to retire and divouac again at Morristown. He died of brain fever mly a few days after being driven back.

About Arnold Tayern are clustered the most sacred

collections. It was while quartered here the news ne up to Washington and his staff from the Lowantica Valley where the troops were in camp, that the eases, the smallpox. From the army it spread among the people residing in the town, and never in its his tory was the Continental Army brought in contact with ich a dire and dreadful enemy. Death daily visited the terror-stricken army, until 205 brave and vailant well understand the alarm of Washington, as he beheld his brave followers falling victims to the

well understand the alarm of Washington, is he beheld his brave followers falling victims to the finease, and the anxiety of the people of the country at this critical period can better be imagined than described, because should the ranks of the army become so reduced that they could no longer defend their shot towers and pewder mills the cause would be unterly lost, for it was upon them that aimost the entire force in the field depended for ammunition.

It is a legend that the malady was carried into the American camp by a British spy, the enemy, by this dishonorable method, having endeavored to gain a thost important position and turn the tide of victory toward themselves. The hour was dark and the young nation was plunged in gloom and sadness; but a darker hour still was destined to follow, for just at this time was in the dead of winter. The entire country was snow bound. In order to travel from point to point it was necessary to cut roads through the dritts, as Aborcrombic cut his way through the underbrush from lake George to Fort Theonderoga. The soldiers were shivering for want of shelter and dying for lack of proper care and attention. In his desire to relieve their position, and in his anxiety to prevent the spread of the swful scourge, Washington, neglecting his own health, constantly subjected himself to the elements, and is his frequent journeys between the camp and headquarters contracted a heavy cold which brought him down upon his back in the Arnold Tavern with diphtheria.

The officers appreciating well the panic which this

headquarters contracted a heavy coid which brought him down upon his back in the Arnold Tavern with diphtheria.

The officers appreciating well the panic which this sad intelligence would create were it communicated to the soldiers, purposely kept it from them for a time. The non-appearance of their commander in camp, however, finally led them to suspect his serious lilness, whereupon the officers, unable to keep them longer in suspense, revealed the whole truth. It is said that the forces were ulterly heartbroken. They had faced the enemy against terrible odds; they had seen their companions one after another carried out to be buried. They were content to suffer the conditions of one of the most terrible winters that has ever been known, and at the voice of their commander they would, what was left of them, have even yet marched in a solid column against an army double their number; but now that the voice of their General was stient, now that in the midst of their despair they could no longer catch a glimpse of his familiar face, they were wholly unnerved, and for the moment seemed to have lost all trust in their God and their cause.

Tradition has it that so alarming did the position of Washington become that his medical advisers approached him and acquainted him with his dangerous situation. They asked him whom he considered most competent to fill his place in case of his death. Washington was unable to speak at the time, but with his finger pointed out General Greene as the man. But, thanks to the Almighty, the chieftain recovered, and this circumstance, along with the fact that the towers and mills were turning out increased amounts of powder and shot, once more inspired hope among the noders, and also placed them upon a footing with the chemy.

pewder and abot, once more inspired hope among the golders, and also placed them upon a footing with the conemy.

The winters of 1779-80 were terrible, almost beyond description. Dr. Thatcher in his dary writes:—"The soldiers are destitute of both tents and blankets, and many of them are barefooted and almost naked. Our lodging last night was on the frozen ground." Later he adds:—"In addition to other sufferings the whole army has been destitute of the staff of life for seven days. On the 3d tinst, we experienced one of the most tremendous snow storms ever remembered. No man could ensure its violence many minutes without danger of his life." So heavy was the storm that communication with the army from Morristown was entirely cut off, and it was about this time that Washington wrote to the Chief Magistrate of New Jersey as follows:—"The present state of the army with respect to provisions is the most distressing of any we have experienced since the beginning of the war."

It was in the winter of 1780 that Washington moved from the Arnold Tavern to the Ford mansion, which has ever since been regarded as his "Headquarters." Here he was joined by Lady Washington. No sooner had she arrived when several ladies who held high positions in the country, put on their best "birds and bands" and their most elegant "roffics and sike," to call upon her. When they reached the mansion they lound the lady busily engaged in knitting stockings for her husband. During the course of the visit she took occasion, in a kinolly way, to give them a little whomson, and the lady way to give them a little whomson, and the lady way to give them a little whomson, he active. "It is very important," said she, "that American indies should be patterns of mansiry to their country will dry up the sources whence many of our country will dry up the sources whence many of our country will dry up the sources whence many of our country will dry up the sources whence many of our country will dry up the sources whence many of our country will dry up the s

shipt elevation, a quaint and curious old building, over which containtly facils the Stars and Siripes. This structure is known as the beadquarters of General Washington. It is reached by a series of piecasant terraces, all of which are shaded by heautiful trees, while the topmost one commands a grand view of the surrounding country. The house is of wood, but contains enough solid timber to build three house of modern construction. It was rearred in the year 1772, and has a century. Its architecture is identical with that of the oldest houses of New York, all private residences of those days having been reared, apparently, after the same pattern. The entrance is broad and high, and is directly in the centre of the main structure. The door is of solid oak, and its divided in the middle in the old fashioned to Washington and the illustrious men of those times, and the same old brass knocker is securely bolied upon them. Upon entering one is impressed with the height of the ceiling and the exceeding depth and waith of the bail. The floor is of oak plank, so finely poished that it glistens like a mirror. The front room on the right was Waghington's reception rough that the floor is of oak plank so finely poished that it glistens like a mirror. The front room on the right was Waghington's reception rough the one side of the apartiment is seen the curious old secretary of the General, with all its secret drawers; one, no doubt, regarded as an elegant piece of furniture, but how so dod and peculiar that one can scarcely look at it without a smile. Near this secretary is a little one of the same of the same

steady, unbroken line from the lovely avenues of the city up to the beautiful terraces of the old Fort mansion. And in the procession old things and old ways will be contrasted with new, so that there may be discerned what progress has been made during the first century of our great Republic. Behind these will follow wagons and platforms, upon which will be displayed the natural products of the soil—iruit plucked from a hundred cardens. What picture could be more magnificent? The visitor standing at any given point can thus behold a grand panorama passing before bim, in which will be reveated, as if by a flash of lightning, the wealth, spirit, enterprise and strength of the entire country—the products of its mines, the industry of its manufactures, in fact all the sources of revenue.

The procession will move between nine and ten A. M., and the line of march will not be long enough to weary any. Afterwards the wagons will be parked upon the square and remain for inspection as long as the owners may desire.

The oration will be delivered by J. F. Tuttle, President of Wabash College.

When at daybreak the long line of cannon in front of the old headquarters in flame and smoke proclaim the birth of a new century of American independence, the people will see what that century has brought forth and how we have regarded that liberty which our lathers bought by their patriotism and blood, and thus, if accident does not intervene, will be inaugurated one of the most novel, and one might say highly intellectual, celebrations that the country has ever known, and it is to be hoped that nothing may interfere to provent its perfect and successful consummation.

A CENTENNIAL CLUB.

THE ANCIENT SOUTH RIVER CLUB OF MARY-LAND-AN INSTITUTION FOUNDED UNDER COLONIAL BULE IN 1742-THE BECORD IN BRIEF OF A PECULIAR SOCIAL ORGANIZATION. SOUTH RIVER, ARE Arendel County, Md. . June 15, 1876. }
Along the public read leading in the direction of the

Chesapeake a half acre of ground is enclosed by an old worm leace. An unpretentious frame building, with an enormous chimney, stands in the centre of this enclosed space and is flanked by two stately oaks that look as though they might have belonged to the "forest primeval." Their spreading branches even at noonday furnish abundant shade to the grounds about the se, and as the sun sinks behind the hills their shadows gradually lengthen out until they become merged with the foliage of the woods in the distance. This is the old South River Club House, built in 1742, and maintained intact for the purposes of its founders through all the vicissitudes of 134 years. Internal commotions or foreign wars have found no echoing response within its walls. Dedicated to social purposes long anterior to the American Revolution its doors have been thrown open every club day, and its members and their guests have pleasure of the hospitable board or the harmless amusements which the stringency of the club rules permitted. The HERALD correspondent has been at some pains to obtain the following facts with reference to its history, and through the courtesy of one of the mempers of the Ancient Ciub he has inspected the records of the association. The club was undoubtedly formed many years prior to 1742, as the Margiand Gazette for July 15, 1746, says the gentlemen belonging to the Ancient South River Club, "to express their loyalty to His Majesty on the success of the immitable Duke of Sumberland's obtaining a complete victory over the Presender and delivering us from persecution at home and Popery and invasion from abroad, have appointed a grand optertainment to be given at their club house on flursday next;" out in 1742 the old club house was destroyed by are and the records perished in the flames. The first record is the deed of the land upon which the present club house stands, given by John Gassaway, and which is as follows :-

Gaissway, and which is as follows:—
This indenture, made the third day of July, Ameo Domini seventeen hundred and larty, between John Gassaway, of Anne Atunici county, of the one just, and above t sanders of the other port, witnessent, that the said John Gassaway, for and in consideration of the sum of eighty pounds (\$4.0), entered more points paid to the said of eighty pounds (\$4.0), and within application is the major series of the said are of land to the society within mentioned, and as the said half are

It then provides that, in the event of the club co o exist, the land shall revert to Gassaway, his heirs ceipt from Gassaway for the £80:-

Received July 21, 1740. To be recorded and recorded the same day in Anne Arandel County Land Record in 146. R. B. W. I. fol. 13, and examined P. BRICE, Clerk.

From the above it will be perceived that this was egun some years prior to 1740, and that the father of John Gassaway had already received the purchase money. By reference to the churchyard the Henal.b writer discovered that Colonel Nicholas Gassaway, the

father of John, died in 1730, in the fifty-fifth year of his age. The most marked feature about the sale of any farmer residing in this neighborhood at present will willingly part with every acre he owns for one-half

that he has driven the sharpest bargain which his luck has ever offered him.

THE ENCORP BOOK

of the club is a curiosity. It is the same that was used in 1742. They use the same table, some of the same chairs, and the rules have not been altered in the most immaterial particular since that time. The first entry is dated February 11, 1742, and contains among other things the following its of the members then belonging:—Mr. Robert Sanders, Mr. Thomas Stockett, Mr. James Monat, Mr. Thomas Caton, Mr. Samuel Burgess, Mr. Samuel Day, Mr. Robert Harding, Mr. Thomas Sparrow, Rev. William Hogden, Mr. Turner Wootton, Mr. James Dick, Mr. Samuel Chambers, Dr. Samuel Preston Moore, Mr. William Chapman, Jr., Captain Authony Beck, Mr. James Nicholson, Mr. Jona Brower, Mr. John Jiams, Captain Zacharah Maccubbin, Captain James Hall, Captain Darby Lux, Mr. Henry Gassaway, Captain Joseph Cowran, Mr. John Watkins, Mr. William Chapman, Mr. William Reynolds, Mr. Jonathan Sellman, Mr. Chaftes Stewart, Mr. Rehard Moore, Mr. Stephen West, Jr., and Captain John White. It was also "agreed that Mr. Robert Sanders, Mr. William Chapman and Mr. John Watkins be a committee to collect the names of the members that have ever belonged to this society to the best of their memories, masmuch as the present list appeared very delective." I can find no report from the committee. The dinners at that time were given twice in each month, the same member serving both times. It was not at all unusual for members inving at a distance to serve by proxy. Mr. Stephen West, Jr., for instance, lived at Woodyard, in Prince George county, fully twenty miles from the club house, It may be added here, as a matter of interest, that the place, the Woodyard, is still in possession of his descendants. There is nathing except the usual record of dinners given from this time, IT42, until 10th of July, 1746, when there appears the following entry:—

tance, eight mines distabl, and separated from it by a wide rivor.

THE RULES

of the "association" were still strictly enforced. The Rev. William Brogden was in June of this year (1753) compelled to serve three times for neglecting to appear on the regular club day in course, and in April of the year following Mr. John Watkins was required to do likewise for making a wrong entry in the record book. On the 10th July, 1755, Mr. Jonathan Seliman and Mr. Richard Moore were appointed a committee "to see that some necessary repairs be made both of the in and out side of our club house, as also a sash window be fixed in the side of our said house." The repairs were new sills and new sleepers to the floor, showing the antiquity of the house. Under date of January 22, 1756, is the following interesting entry:

Then served Mr. Richard Moore his second time, when it was voted that the Pennsylvania Gazete should be found and delivered by the Rev. Mr. Archibald spencer for five suillings yearly, and that Mr. James Dick shall provide the Yeighing Gazete for ten shillings for the use of the said club on the first day of acrying siter their receipt, wither by the aforesaid Mr. Spencer and Mr. Dick or Mr. John Jacobs, for the use of the circum.

on the first day of serving after their receipt, orthor by the aloresand Mr. Spencer and Mr. Bick or Mr. Joint Jacobs, for the use of the club.

And then, under date of February 19, it appears that "Mr. Spencer delivered the Fennsylvania papers, dated January —, as the first papers since the entry of ye 22d of January."

"On the 25th of April "Mr. James Dick brought the newspapers, instituted the West India and American monthly packet of intelligence, as a present from Mr. John Buchanaia, merchant in London, to the secrety, but not to be carried from the club house."

On the 25th of February, 1760, it was resolved that the club should be served once each month, instead of twice, this resolution to take effect on the first Thursday in April, which was done, and is yet the custom, the first Thursday in each month being "club day," but the serving member can postpone it to some other day by giving due notice to the other members. At the meeting on the 6th of May, 1762, it was unanimously agreed that Mr. Thomas Gassaway should take the old rules belonging to this club and apply to John Jacobs and agree with him to larrly copy them in a plan round or Inlann hand, for which this society promise to pay. This was done and the rules tramed and hung up in a conspicuous place, where they yet hang—tho same rules in the same frame. On the 7th of June, 1764, an application was made to the members by Cap-ana e Thomas Harwood for permission "of this club to take a copy of the rules of this ancient club, which was unanimously agreed to by the members present, for the perusai and government of a soit of gentlemen who propose forming a society of the same sert." Thus it is seen that the recover themselves, is 1764, speak of it as the Accient Club.

The record continues ounterrupted from this time to 1777, without, however, containing any matter of interest, when, under date of September 4 of that year, is this entry.—

ing alone costing £22 5a 11/d (\$111 23). August 3, 1806, permission was given to open A School in the club nouse, and the club appointed the terror of the school from

D. D., Vice President of St. Join's College. The record

DURING THE CIVIL WAR
gives no token of the struggle then taking place, the rule prohibiting political discussions having been strictly enforced. For a brief period after the war, owing to the distressing effects of the contest, there was a suspension of the meetings. On July 11, 1572, the members mot and reorganized, with Mr. David McCuilough Brogden as President, since which time they have continued to meet on days appointed. The last dinner was served by Mr. W. D. Steuart, grand-nephew of Mr. Wm. Steuart, who became a member of the club June 7, 1790. At that time there were five members—D. McCuilough Brogden, who became a member of the bit of May, 1836 and who continued his membership to the day of his death, on the 4th of last month; A. B. Hagner, Dr. Roward M. Duvali and H. H. Bregden—whose father, grandfather, great grandfather and great-great-grandfather had all been members of the club. From the above it will be seen that the South River Club is the oldest merely social organization in the United States and perhaps the oldest in the world, as it was founded before the days of clubs in Europe. The rules governing the club are the same which controlled it in 1706, for that is popularly supposed to be the year in which it was founded. So GANBLING

has ever been permitted on the premises. The only game allowed is quoits, and the set of quoits now used was presented to the club by Joseph R. Ingersoli, of Phitacelphia, for which he was elected an honorary member. No person who abuses the hospitality of the association by drinking too much can be again invited. Three meats only are allowed—no said dishes—systers, crabs and fish in season, but plainly served. No wines at all, Whiskey and whiskey punch, clean pipes and tobacco or cigars—potatoss—these things comprise the bill of fare.

THE TRENTON DAMAGED.

THE TRENTON DAMAGED.

The firm of John Roach & Sons, in addition to its other extensive operations, is at present engaged in the construction of a sloop-of-war for the United States navy, to be called the Trenton. The work on her had gone on rapidly for some weeks, and Thursday after-The Steam Derrick Company had the contract for this work and commenced operations on Thursday afternoon at three o'clock. The cylinder weighed about twenty tons. It was raised up by the derrick, and the immense mass of metal was just hanging over the hatchway of the Trenton, when a large steamer passing caused a good deal of movement in the water. The derrick moved to the heaving of the water and the twenty-ton cylinder, as a matter of course, swayed with the motion of the derrick. Finally the cylinder slipped its hain, crashed through the cross beams and drove a half inch boit through the hall of the vessel. The hole was speedily plugged up, but it will be nearly a week before the damage done by the falling of the cylinder can be repaired. About \$3,000 will cover the loss caused by this accident, which falls on the contractors, McDonald & Ce., of the Steam Derrick Company. The Steam Derrick Company had the contract for this

UNPAID WORKMEN.

About 150 of the workmen employed by a contra and Hudson River Railroad Company, at the foot of and Hudson River Railroad Company, at the foot of West Sixty-first street, stopped their work yesterday moroing in consequence of the non-payment of their wages. The men said they had not been paid for seven weeks, and that some of them nad been turned out of their boarding houses because they could not pay their board bills. They also say that the contractor, Oliver, has not been seen by them for a week. The men are quiet and orderly, but decline to work without any prospect of receiving pay. They had been promised \$1.25 per day,

SUICIDE OR NOT?

ly before ten o'clock ve up West street, near Harrison, the engineer, John Neely, noticed a middle aged man a short distance abead near the track. He rang the boll, and the man moved away, but just as the engine reached him he throw himself on the track, and the wheels passed over his body, killing him almost instantly. The engine was brought to a standatifl by the obstruction, and the body was taken from beneath the wheels. The face was mutifated beyond recognition. Officer McQuade, of the steamboat squad was then called, and had the body removed to the Ninth precinet. He arrested the engineer, who was brought before the Coroner, and admitted to bail in \$500 on his statement that the case was one of suicide and not an accident. The deceased was about fifty years of age, dressed in a black frockcoat, black pauts and vest, black Kossuth hat, white shirt and congress gaiters. The body was removed to the Morgue to await identification. On his person was found a watch and chain, but no papera moved away, but just as the engine reached him he

POOR BRIDGET BARRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-

As I was reading the HERALD this morning I came cross the article that stated how the agent and man-ger of the Weed Sewing Machine Company treated oor Bridget Barry. Cannot something be done for the

from her by the Weed Company could be raised she might be able to invest it in another company, one that will give the poor woman time to pay without forcing her to, smash costly plate glass. The Weed company, no doubt, has the satisfaction of knowing that they have \$50 toward another glass. Who knows but that they have taken many more fifties in the same way? Hoping this will find a place in your widely spread baper, I remain the same as before,

Juse 15, 1876. If only half of the money that was so unjustly taken

WAL: ZING WITH A SHARK

HE KILLS IT-THEN GOES TO A DEMOCRATIO

(Pensacola (Florida) Gazette.)
Captain John B. Guttmann, of the Pensacola Guards,
signalized himself in an odd encounter last Friday and came out first best. Riding down to the shore of Es-camble Bay the Captain noticed a strange commotion in the water, and that the beach for a considerable distance was covered with fish from six inches to a foot and a half in length, some dead and some still jump

MRS. A. T. STEWARTS CHARITIES.

MUNIPICENT DONATIONS TO THE POOR, SICE, CRIPPLED AND HOMELESS OF NEW YORK

tions of this city with a view to carrying out the ex-pressed wishes of her late husband, Alexander T. Stewart. At this season of the year, when wealthy amilies are preparing to go to Europe or the watering sistance so cordially tendered. The families leaving for the country or for Europe do not find it so very and Judge Hilton, without solicitation in most cases, has made, by Mrs. Stewart's wishes, the following

Home for incurables.
Home for the Friendless
Home for Old Men and Aged Couples.
Lying-in Home for Destitute Females.
New York Infant Asylum
New York Juvenile Asylum
New York Orphan Asylum
Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum
St. Luke's Home for Ingigent Christian Females.

Total......\$74,000

Judge Hilton stated that there were many other charitable societies in the city whose character if proved to be thoroughly deserving would receive speedy attention from Mrs. Stewart.

PLYMOUTH PRAYER MEETING.

Plymouth prayer meeting was very well attended

last evening. Prayers were offered by Brothers Halli-day and Davis. After which Mr. Beecher said:—There is a great deal of use in a religion of conscience, and yet vantage in a religion of fear; but it is far from being the best form. It is better than nothing as the motive that inspires us to avoid evil and to fulfil duties not particularly attractive, if you can get nothing better; but if you can go a grade higher and inspire men to a better life by conscience, it is better than a religion of fear. But if you can introduce into the experience of men a more cheerful element, to persuade men to of men a more cheerful element, to persuade men to live on a higher plane and with a nobler motive than fear or conscience—if you can persuade men to that form of religion on account of its intrinsic beauty, that is still higher—it is one of the highest; to have such a sympathy with the right in all its forms, that you find the motive spontaneous in you. But suppose, however, attractive in our better moods, there are hours when we are absorbed by other things and it were possible to introduce a personal influence that would co operate with the moral affection for

becomes indispensable that persons should get in love with Christ. The great mistake about this is that Christ is not proached enough as a person. Look at Christ's life on earth. He was such an one as not simply excited the multitude by working miracjes, but there was that winsome way with Him; He was so sympathizin, with the unfashionable, the unrespectable, the immoral. If Christ had ben the prince of philosophers we should have had far less a Saviour than we have. Such a Christ is a motive against discouragement when you have tripped and tallen. It is a motive which influences us to proceed on the bright and shining way on which we have entered. Before the benediction lift. Beccher read a letter from the Orange Valley church, requesting the presence of the Plymouth pastor at a council convened for the examination of a cahidate for the new vacant pastorate. Added to the was a list of all the churches in vited to attend. After he had finished he said:—You observe that this list includes all the churches in this vicinity, with some of which we have not occur on the best of terms lately. We have tried to keep peace with ourselves and with others, and some other churches in trying to keep peace have upset the whole country. Some of these churches have declined being present with Plymoutl' church at this council because they cannot find out something they never will find out till the judgment day. I shall have to decline being present day, I shall have to decline being present day. I shall have to decline being present day. I shall have to decline being present the church in this council. It was voted that Dr. Edward Beecher should represent the church.

The Examining Committee met after the prayer

AFRICAN METHODIST CONFERENCE.

The third day's session of the African Methodist Episcopal Conference of the State of New York was held in the Bridge street church, near Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn, yesterday.

The troubles of the Fleet street Methodist Episcopal church, of which Rev. J. B. Murray is pastor, then came before the Conference.

The matter was reierred to a committee of five for investigation and report.

The question as to where the next annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church shall be held provoked a lengthy discussion.

It was maily resolved that the next Conference should be held in the Sullivan street Methodist church, New York.

ONE HUNDRED AND FOUR.

DEATH OF THE OLDEST WOMAN IN THE SOUTH-WEST. (From the Joplin (Mo.) News.)

From the Jopin (Mc.) News.]

Six years ago, in the ninety-eighth year of her age,
Mrs. Nancy Pence passed through Jasper county in a
wagon, on the way with her family from Kentucky,
prospecting for a home in Southwest Missour; and,
after visiting several of its counties, finally located in Christian county, where she died on Wednesday last, at he advanced age of 104 years, at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. W. G. Estea. She was from New Jersey, and at a very early age removed with her lattice's (John Kitchen) family to Virginia. From Virginia they emigrated to North Carolina, and when Mrs. Pence was eighteen years of age they removed to Kentucky, where she hearried John Pence, to whom she bore fourteen children. The eighth child, Mrs. G. W. Estes, with whom she has been living for twenty-two years, is sixty-five years of age. The Ozark Monitor says:—"Mrs. Pence, who had been blind for twenty-two years, its sixty-five years after croovered her eight so that sne could see persous passing the road, or, as she said, could see the form but could not see the features. Sixty years ago she united with the Baptist Church, and was a fmithful member and an earnest worker up to the time of her death. She leaves behind her five children, averaging from forty-five to sixty-fove years of age, fifty-four grandchildren and nearly 100 great grandchildren, or a total of living descendents as the time of her death of hearly 150 souls. There is Bitle doubt but she was the oldest woman in the Southwest." son-in-law, Mr. W. G. Estes. She was from New

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MERALD:-

In your issue of the day before yes tioned as having been present at the O Toole shooting affray. As this statement has been a great annoyance to me and my family, I would request you to state that I was not present at all. Yours truly,

JAMES C. CURRAN. DEATH IN A PIT.

[From the Reading (Pa.) Times, June 13.]

TWO MEN HILLED BY CARBONIC ACID GAS DICT OF THE JURY.

two men met their death almost instantly, and a third was on the brink of death, but was saved by timely families, on Fifth street, two houses on the rear of the lot on Wood street, and a dwelling house court in the centre of the lot. Midway in the lot the is a ceaspeol, used by several families residing on premises, which had filled up and become obnexion the neighborhood. On last Thursday Mr. Curry dug the weil to a depth of about three feet. He then contracted with Mr. Issac K. Loose, a carter, for the completion of the weil. On Saturday morning Mr. Loose commenced operations, and by afternoon had dug the weil to a depth of nine fest or a little over. Mr. Curry then commenced wailing up the same with brick, and by evaning had finished his portion of the job unasted. Mr. Jona K. Burkholder, an employe at Curry's confectionery establishment at Fifth and Penn streets, then endeavored, at the request of Mr. Curry, to cut a noise from the new weil into the old cesspool for the purpose of tapping the contents of the latter. He was unsuccessful, however, as after digging a hole through the intermediate bank of earth with a spade, he was stopped by a wooden hogshead in the other well. The matter was then deterred until yesterday morning. On Sunday a terrible sench arose from the old cesspool, which almost sufficented the tambly of Mr. Thomas Elliots, who resided in the court almost immediately lacing the cesspool. Mr. Elliott, who resides in the court, and had previous conversation with Mr. Curry, car pressed his determination to endeavor to tap the old cesspool into the new well. To carry out this purpose Mr. Elliout, at an early hour yesterday morning, arose and proceeded to the carpenter shop of Fink, Eusenhows of the old cesspool. It was about half-past five o'c'cock when he left the shop, and he at once recurred, descended into the well and a temporary platform been creded. Upon boring the nole a quantity o'liquid commenced lieving from the old well, and a voiume of exceedingly noxious carbonic acid gas also flowed court, by which Mr. Elliott was overcome and fell to the bottom.

Mr. John Edwards, a brother-in-law of Mr. Curry, residing in the family of the latter, was werking in a building on the lot freezing ice cream, at which he had been employed from half-past three in the morning He hastened to Elliott's assistance, and having decended into the well was also overcome by the gas. During this time the C

while others ran into Wood street and called loudly for heip.

Mr. Thomas B. Curry, the owner of the premises, was aroused and descended into the well on a stepladder as iar as the platform, but was unable to assist the men, and was also overpowered by the ferrible smeil, Mr. Charles Broschkowsky, residing in the same building with Mr. Curry, was aroused, ran to the well, saw the danger, and immediately went for a rope, deorge lorsey, the colored coachman of the Eckert family, having been in the employ of the late issue Eckert for a number of years, ran in from the stable where he was ceaning his horses, and having been informed that the men were drowning, be, without a thought of carbonic acid gas, jumped into the well to endeavor to rescue the other men. He, too, was overcome by the gas, and became unconscious.

All this happened in a few minutes. Mr. William A. Fink was passing down Wood street at the time, and, hearing the slarm, ran into the yard. He saw the throwmen on top of each other in the well and Curry on the step ladder. Having got a whiff of the terrible gas he was almost overcome, and, seeing that nothing could be done without additional assustance, he ran into

was almost overcome, and, seeing that nothing could be done without additional assistance, he ran into Wood street crying for help, and ran down to Fink, Elseniower & Co.'s shep, where he obtained a rope, block and tackle, and also got the help of his father, labor Fink. responded to the call for help, and assisted in getting the men out. Dorsey was got out just in time, as a few seconds more would have finished him. He was unconscious, but revived after getting into the fresh air. The two men, Elliott and Edwards, were drawn up. Elliott having been at the bottom of the well and Edwards on top of Elliott, but life in both was found to

ANOTHER GIRL SHOT.

HER GRANDFATHER KILLS HER ACCIDENTALLY. [From the Parker's City (Pa.) Daily.]

MILLER'S EDDY, Pa., June 10, 1876.
A very sad and istal accident occurred here to-day at
fifteen minutes past one o'clock, resulting in the instant death of Miss Mary Plunket, aged thirteen years and six months. -The fatal shot was fired by her grandgun was loaded with shot, and the old man being i the house rested it against the side of an open windo gun was loaded with shot, and the old man being in the house reside it against the side of an open window or the purpose of steadying it while he took aim. The poor girl, who had been engaged in scrubbing the house, was hurrying to the spring for a pail of water, and on her way there she was obliged to pass close by the window, which she reached in time to receive the contents of the gun just above the right eye, she at the time being loss than two yards distant from the muzzle. The writer of this, startled by the load report, followed immediately by waitings of distress, at once ran to the scene of the accident, water he arrived in about two minutes, and a terrible spectacle was before him. The lifeless remains of the child were lying with her leet toward the houns, face up. The lips wore a rather pleasant expression; the lorehead was black with powder, while the top of the head was carried away and the brains lay ecattered over the ground. The poor old grandiather sat close by, paie but tearless, gazing upon the horrible scene. His sadness was too deep for tears. On the writer's approach the old man rose to his feet and exclamed, with all the agony of distress, "My God, see what I have done!" "Who is that?" was asked. "My grand-child, Euma Plunket," the old man replied. At this time others of the child, and it is needless to say that a heartrending acene followed. May we never witness another such. The writer gathered up the scattered brains and replaced them within the shattered calvarium, sewed up the scatp as well as he be could, closed up the wound with adhesive strips, and thus left the poor girl beautiful in death who was beautiful in life but half an hour before. I cannot close without first liaploring the tender sympathy of all good citizens for the poor distressed old man, who by accident slew his grandchild.

A MAN SHOT.

A MAN SHOT.

[From the Elmira (N. Y.) Gazette, June 12] On Saturday evening a young man named De Wits Storms, living near Carr's Corpers, was shot in the breast by William Roache, a printer, working in the Husbandman office. Storms, it is stated, was on his way home from the city with a party of triends, and way home from the city with a party of friends, and met Roache and another party. A difficulty occurred, which was settied, but afterward was renewed between Roache and Storms. The latter is said to have atruck Roache with a ciub, whereupon he (the latter) drew a revolver and fired six shots, one taking effect in the breast, inflicting a wound which may prove fatal. The wounded man was taken home. Roache escaped. The shooting occurred near the corner of Wainut and Water streets. Roache at last accounts had not been arrested. A report prevailed on the street at noon that Storms could not live till night.

STABBING AFFRAY.

Yesterday morning John Smith, of this city, and Godirey Slatter, of West Hoboxen, became involved in a quarrel on the Hackensack Plank Road. From words